

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STR-04 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 EPA-01 EUR-12

FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00

DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 ERDA-05 FMC-01 H-01

INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07

PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SS-15 CAB-02 FAA-00 /154 W

-----078211 180810Z /15

R 180100Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6379

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SUVA 0978

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, FJ, XU

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM MEETING

REF: WELLINGTON 3553 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED COPY OF PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR
8TH SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM. PRINCIPAL ITEMS ARE:

- A) ANNUAL REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF SPEC TO INCLUDE
REGIONAL TRADE AND MARKETING, TELECOMMUNICATIONS,
SHIPPING, CIVIL AVIATION, AID REVIEW, AND EEC/APC.
- B) COMPREHENSIVE/ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

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- C) PROPOSAL FOR A SOUTH PACIFIC FISHERIES AGENCY.
- D) FORUM COOPERATION WITH OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
AND COUNTRIES: ASEAN, ESCAP AND REGIONAL NON-FORUM COUNTRIES.
- E) REPORT OF USP VICE-CHANCELLOR.
- F) AMENDMENT TO SPEC AGREEMENT.

2. OF AGENDA SUBJECTS, WE JUDGE FISHERIES AGENCY

PROPOSAL TO HAVE MOST DIRECT IMPLICATIONS FOR UNITED STATES IN VIEW OF LINKAGE WITH SPC, WHICH MAY CONSIDER ITEM AT PAGO PAGO CONDERENIE IN SEPTEMBER. PERMP SEC FORN AFFIARS HAS TOLD ME FORUM HOPES TO ADOPT COMMON POSITION ON PROPOSAL FOR PAGO MEETING, AND WILL PUSH FOR ITS ESTABLISHMENT AS AN SPC/BACKED ORGAN IN ORDER DRAW IN NON-FORUM MEMBERS, I.E. US, UK, AND FRANCE. PERM SEC ENVISAGES AGENCY'S POSSIBLE AMALGAMATION, IF IT EMERGES, WITH MARINE RESOURCES INSTITUTE, NOW IN PLANNING STAGE AS ARM OF USP. PROPOSAL APPEARS TO BE OUTGROWTH OF SPC STUDY ENTITLED "THE LAW OF THE SEA AND REGIONAL FISHERIES POLICY" ISSUED AS OCCASIONAL PAPER NO. 2 IN APRIL, 1977. WITH APPROACH OF FORUM MEETING, IT IS PROBABLY NO COINCIDENCE THAT GOF HAS CHOSEN THIS TIME TO ANNOUNCE DECISION TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR 200-MILE FISHERY ZONE.

3. SPC STUDY (A) EXAMINES IMPACT OF EXTENDED JURISDICTION TO 200 MILES ON NATIONAL FISHERIES POLICIES AND (B) RECOMMENDS ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL FISHERIES AGENCY TO DEAL WITH STATISTICS, RESOURCE ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES, DETERMINATION OF RESOURCE OWNERSHIP OR REDISTRIBUTION OF REVENUS, AND SURVEILLANCE. SECTION ON SURVEILLANCE FAVORS USE OF SATELLITES AND MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF TRANSPONDERS ON TUNA VESSELS OF MEMBER NATIONS. SPEC SOURCE INFORMS US IT
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INTERESTED IN SATELLITE SURVEILLANCE AND WILL PRESUMABLY FAVOR AT FORUM MEETING.

4. BUDGET FOR AGENCY ESTIMATED AT \$400,000 FOR SECRETARIAT, INCLUDING RESEARCHER AND STATISTICIANS, \$1 MILLION TO OPERATE LICENSING AND REVENUE MACHINERY, \$2 MILLION FOR SURVEILLANCE IF SATELLITE SYSTEM USED.

5. FORUM DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM A SUBJECTS COULD BECOME FAIRLY SHARP. IT IS WELLKNOWN GOF AND PRIME MIN RATU MARA CONSIDER AIR PACIFIC, IN WHICH FIJI RELUCTANTLY HOLDS 61 PERCENT INTEREST, TO BE NEAR FAILURE AS REGIONAL AIRLINE. GOF PLACES HEAVY BLAME FOR THIS ON NAURU AND WESTERN SAMOA, INTENT ON EXPANDING OWN NATIONAL AIRLINES WHILE HOLDING INTEREST IN AIR PACIFIC. AIR PACIFIC/POLYNESIAN AIRLINES ROUTING CONFLICTS EXPECTED TO BE AIRED AS WELL AS QUESTION OF NEW EQUIPMENT FOR AIR PACIFIC.

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R 180100Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

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INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SUVA 0978

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

6. FORUM SHIPPING LINE (ITEM A) HAS YET TO BEGIN SERVICE, ALTHOUGH SPEC DIRECTOR HAD PREDICTED IT WOULD BE FULLY OPERATION BY MARCH OF THIS YEAR. THERE HAS BEEN LONG DEBATE OVER DIVISION OF ANTICIPATED LOSSES AMONG PARTICIPANTS, RICH NAURU BEING PARTICULARLY INTRACTABLE. AUSTRALIA HAS REMAINED LUKE-WARM TO IDEA, BUT TONGA HAS RECENTLY DECIDED TO TO DROP PLANS FOR OWN REGIONAL LINE AND BACK FORUM, ACCORDING CABINET-LEVEL SOURCE.

7. USP FUNDING MAY BE ISSUE SINCE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY NEEDS MORE MONEY FROM ALL PARTICIPANTS FOR NECESSARY
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EXPANSION AS ENROLLMENT GROWS FROM PRESENT 1,500 STUDENTS. CONTRIBUTION FORMULA PARTICULARLY HARD ON TONGA AND WESTERN SAMOA AND PRO-CHANCELLOR TELLS ME

MEANS OF OBTAINING OUTSIDE FUNDING, SUCH AS ENDOWMENTS, WILL PROBABLY BE FORUM ISSUE.

8. THERE IS POSSIBILITY THAT DEBATE ON TRADE AND MARKETING, AND AID FOLLOW-UP ITEMS (A) COULD STIMULATE CRITICISM OF LIMITED USG SOUTH PACIFIC AID EFFORTS. WE HAVE NOT BEEN RESPONSIVE TO TONGA'S MODEST PROPOSAL FOR US-FUNDED MARKETING SURVEY, AND GOF FORN AFFAIRS SEC RECENTLY TOLD ME PRIME MIN RATU MARA "DISAPPOINTED" WITH OUR APPARENT LACK OF INTEREST IN SOUTH PACIFIC, WHICH MARA LINKS WITH USG RELUCTANCE ENTER INTO BILATERAL AID PROGRAMS. PRIME MIN, ACCORDING PERM SEC, WONDERES IF US HAS FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ON SPHERES OF INFLUENCE AND AID. "IS YOUR INTEREST IN PEOPLE OF SOUTH PACIFIC" OR IS IT ONLY REACTION TO WHAT PERM SEC DELICATELY DESCRIBED AS "NON-TRADITIONAL INITIATIVES" IN AREA. I EXPECT THIS NOTE TO BE SOUNDED WITH INCREASING FREQUENCY HERE, IF NOT IN FORUM.

9. AGENDA ITEM B DESCRIBED TO US AS MAINLY OF INTEREST TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA. PROGRAM IS CONTAINED IN LONG, DISCURSIVE DOCUMENT (SPC 614177 OF MAY, 1977) PRODUCED AT BEHEST OF SEVENTH FORUM CONFERENCE AND SIXTEENTH SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE. JARGON-RIDDEN AND COVERING TOO MUCH GROUND, STUDY RECOMMENDS FIVE YEAR PROGRAM DESIGNED TO LIMIT INJURIOUS IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES ON NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. IT CALLS FOR REGIONAL CONSERVATION MEETINGS, ADVISORY TEAMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, DRAFT

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ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATURE, ETC. FUNDING TO BE SOUGHT FROM UNEP AND NON-REGIONAL SOURCES. WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO SEE QUESTION FALL OF OWN WEIGHT.

10. BASED ON ITS INTERACTION WITH ASEAN IN UN, AND AFFINITY FOR MALAYSIA IN PARTICULAR, WE WOULD EXPECT GOF TO FAVOR INFORMAL LINKAGE BETWEEN ASEAN AND FORUM. TWO GROUPS HAVE RELATIVELY MODERATE OUTLOOK, TAKEN AS WHOLE, AND HAVE MANY SIMILAR VIEWS.

11. RATU SIR PENAIA GANILAU DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, IS EXPECTED LEAD FIJIAN DELEGATION, WHICH IS TO INCLUDE BERNARDO VUNIBOBO, FIJI'S UN PERM REP AND AMBASSADOR TO U.S. PRIME MIN TUIPELEHAKE WILL HEAD TONGAN DELEGATION. FLANEGIN

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Message Attributes

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